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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP97/04924</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 4 September 1997 (04.09.97)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data:              60/026,652                          24 September 1996 (24.09.96)    US              60/026,650                          24 September 1996 (24.09.96)    US       </p> <p>(71) Applicant (for AU BB CA GB GH IE IL KE LC LK LS MN MW NZ SJ SL SZ TT UG ZW only): UNILEVER PLC [GB/GB]; Unilever House, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BQ (GB).</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except AU BB CA GB GH IE IL KE LC LK LS MN MW NZ SJ SL SZ TT UG ZW): UNILEVER N.V. [NL/NL]; Weena 455, NL-3013 AL Rotterdam (NL).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: PUvvADA, Sudhakar; Apartment SA, 130 Orient Way, Rutherford, NJ 07070 (US). KOLODZIEJ, Richard; Apartment 405, 102, rue de Genève, F-74240 Gaillard (FR). SHANA'A, May; 200 Old Palisade Road, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agent: MOLE, Peter, Geoffrey; Unilever PLC, Patent Division, Colworth House, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1LQ (GB).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published  <i>With international search report.      Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p>

(54) Title: LIQUID COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING STABILITY ENHANCING SURFACTANTS AND A METHOD OF ENHANCING LOW TEMPERATURE STABILITY THEREOF

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to lamellar structured liquid cleansing compositions comprising 5 % to 50 % of a surfactant system comprising (a) an anionic or mixture of anionics and (b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant in mixture, wherein alkali metal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25 % to 90 % of component (b). A method of enhancing low temperature stability of such lamellar structured liquid cleansing compositions by the selection of an alkali metal alkylamphoacetate in an amount of 25 % to 90 % of the component (b) is provided. Excellent low temperature stability is achieved.

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CLAIMS

1. A lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition comprising 5% to 50% of a surfactant system comprising:

5       (a) anionic or mixture of anionic surfactants; and  
         (b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant or mixture thereof;  
         wherein alkali metal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of component (b).

10       2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein alkali metal alkylamphoacetate comprises 30 to 90% of component (b).

15       3. A composition according to claim 2, wherein alkali metal amphoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of component (b).

20       4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein anionic is selected from the group consisting of alkyl sulfates, acyl isethionates and mixtures thereof.

25       5. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) comprises 0.1% to 25% betaine.

6. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition additionally comprises 0% to 10% of nonionic surfactant.

30       7. A method of enhancing low temperature stability of a lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said method comprises selecting the amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant component (b) such that alkali metal alkyl amphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of component (b).

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Liquid compositions comprising stability enhancing surfactants and a method of enhancing low temperature stability thereof

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(56) Related Art  
US 5409840  
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The Claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition comprising 5% to 50% of a surfactant system comprising:
  - 5        a) anionic or mixture of anionic surfactants; and
  - b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant or mixture thereof;  
wherein alkalinmetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of component (b); and
  - 10      c) a structurant selected from liquid fatty acids comprising oleic acid, isostearic acid, linoleic acid, ricinoleic acid, elaidic acid, arachidonic acid, myristoleic acid, palmitoleic acid and mixtures thereof, or
  - 15      polyalkylene glycol fatty acid esters comprising propylene glycol isostearate, propylene glycol oleate, glycetyl isostearate, glycetyl oleate, polyglyceryl diisostearate, and mixtures thereof.
- 20     2. A composition according to Claim 1 wherein alkalinmetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 30 to 90% of component (b).
- 25     3. A composition according to Claim 2, wherein alkalinmetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of components (b).
4. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the anionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkyl sulfates, acyl isethionates and mixtures thereof.
- 30     5. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein component (b) comprises 0.1% to 25% betaine.



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6. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition additionally comprises 0% to 10% of nonionic surfactant.

5 7. A method of enhancing low temperature stability of a lamellar structured cleansing composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said method comprises selecting the amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant component (b) such that alkalinmetal alkyl amphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of 10 component (b).

8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein alkalinmetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 30% to 90% of component (b).

15 9. A method according to Claim 8, wherein alkali metal alkylamphoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of component (b).

10. A method according to any one of Claims 7 to 9 wherein the lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition comprises one or more of the components of Claims 4 to 6.

20 11. A composition as hereinbefore described with reference to the examples.

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